

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**  
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**WASHINGTON DC 20554**

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October 7, 2009

Jake Riehm, Esq.  
Wiley Rein LLP  
1776 K Street NW  
Washington, DC 20006

Re: Backyard Broadcasting Elmira Licensee, LLC  
WWLZ (AM), Horseheads, New York  
Facility Identification Number: 10687  
Special Temporary Authority

Dear Counsel:

This is in reference to the request filed October 6, 2009, on behalf of Backyard Broadcasting Elmira Licensee, LLC ("BBE"). BBE requests special temporary authority ("STA") to operate Station WWLZ with parameters at variance and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits.<sup>1</sup> In support of the request, BBE states that the station's sampling system has been damaged by lightning.

Accordingly, the request for STA IS HEREBY GRANTED. Station WWLZ may operate with parameters at variance and/or reduced power while maintaining monitor points within licensed limits. It will be necessary to further reduce power or cease operation if complaints of interference are received. BBE must notify the Commission when licensed operation is restored.<sup>2</sup> BBE must use whatever means are necessary to protect workers and the public from exposure to radio frequency radiation in excess of the Commission's exposure guidelines. *See* 47 CFR § 1.1310.

This authority expires on **January 7, 2010**.

**STA Advisory:** Section 309(f) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, authorizes the Commission to grant STA in cases of "extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary authorizations in the public interest and when delay in the institution of the temporary operations would seriously prejudice the public interest." However, Section 309(f) is not a means by which a licensee/permittee may circumvent established processing procedures which require the filing of an application, nor is it a means by which a broadcaster may enhance his facility or make operation more convenient for the broadcaster. Stations operating with less than licensed

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<sup>1</sup> WWLZ is licensed for operation on 820 kHz with 4.1 kilowatts daytime and 0.85 kilowatt nighttime, employing a directional antenna during nighttime hours only (DA-N-U).

<sup>2</sup> *See* 47 CFR §§ 73.45(c), 73.51, 73.61(b).

facilities under temporary authorities can be viewed as receiving the benefit of a larger protection area than that in which they are currently providing service.

Accordingly, Special Temporary Authorities by nature are to be temporary and are not intended for extended use. Licensees of stations operating under temporary authorities are reminded that timely restoration of permanent facilities is the responsibility of the licensee and should be undertaken expeditiously. Any request for extension of special temporary authorities carries an increased burden with each subsequent request.

Therefore, requests for extension of STA will be granted only where the licensee can show that one or more of the following criteria have been met:

- Restoration of licensed facilities is complete and testing is underway;
- Substantial progress has been made during the most recent STA period toward restoration of licensed operation; or
- No progress has been made during the most recent STA period for reasons clearly beyond the licensee's control, and the licensee has taken all possible steps to expeditiously resolve the problem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Charles N. Miller", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Charles N. Miller, Engineer  
Audio Division  
Media Bureau

cc: Backyard Broadcasting Elmira Licensee, LLC